

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 176546
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY S/S:FWISNER:BABS

APPROVED BY S/S:FWISNER

-----105101 280056Z /62

O 280038Z JUL 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 176546

NODIS

CHEROKEE, FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOL RPT TEL AVIV 5540 ACTION SECSTATE 27 JUL 77 QUOTE

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 5540

NODIS CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, US

SUBJECT: DAYAN ON PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION AT GENEVA

1. DURING MY TOUR D'HORIZON WITH DAYAN SUNDAY NIGHT, JULY 24, I TOLDHIM AT ONE POINT HOW DIFFICULT A PROBLEM I THOUGHT YOU WOULD HAVE ON YOUR TRIP WORKING OUT AN ACCEPTABLE FORMULA FOR PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION IN LIGHT OF BEGIN'S STRICTURES. I SAID I KNEW THAT YOU WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR ANY CREATIVE IDEAS HE MIGHT HAVE ON THE SUBJECT.

2. AFTER A BIT OF THOUGHT, DAYAN SAID THAT HE DID HAVE ONE IDEA WHICH HE THOUGHT MIGHT EVENTUALLY APPEAL

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TO THE ARABS AND PERHAPS EVEN TO THE PLO. ONE FORMULA COULD BE FOR MOST IF NOT ALL OF THE FIVE ELECTED MAYORS OF THE MAJOR CITIES IN THE WEST BANK TO BE INCLUDED IN THE JORDANIAN DELEGATION. HE POINTED OUT THAT ALL WERE ELECTED WITH ACKNOWLEDGED SUPPORT AND ENDORSEMENT FROM THE PLO, AND THAT IN FACT THEY ARE THE ONLY FREELY ELECTED PALESTINAIN REPRESENTATIVES WHO

CAN CREDIBLY BE ARGUED REFLECT THE WILL OF THE PALESTINIAN ARABS. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR THE PLO TO OBJECT TO THEIR INCLUSION. HE SAID IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT THAT AS A MINIMUM THE MAYORS OF THE THREE LARGEST TOWNS, GAZA, NABLUS, AND HEBRON BE INCLUDED -- WITH OTHER PREFERABLY ADDED AS WELL FROM SUCH PLACES AS RAMALLAH, BETHLEHEM AND JANIN.

3. WHEN I SAW DAYAN THE NEXT DAY AT THE AIRPORT ON THE OCCASION OF BEGIN'S RETURN, HE DREW ME ASIDE TO SAY HE HAD BEEN THINKING FURTHER ABOUT THIS SUGGESTION. BASED ON HIS LONG EXPERIENCE IN DEALING WITH THE ARABS ONE WAY OR ANOTHER HE WAS CONVINCED THAT HIS IDEA WOULD ONLY HAVE A CHANCE OF ACCEPTANCE IF IT COULD SOMEHOW COME AS AN ARAB PROPOSAL RATHER THAN AS AN ISRAELI PROPOSAL. HE THEREFORE CAUTIONED ME ABOUT HOW AND WHEN SUCH AN IDEA WERE INTRODUCED INTO THE DISCUSSION. I ASKED HIM HOW HE THOUGHT IT WOULD PROSPER IF IT WERE AN AMERICAN IDEA. HE REPLIED "BETTER AMERICAN THAN ISRAELI, BUT IF AT ALL POSSIBLE IT SHOULD COME FROM THE ARABS, PERHAPS THE JORDANIANS." HE ADDED WITH SOME DEGREE OF WORRY THAT IN ANY EVENT HE DID NOT WANT HIS OWN NAME ATTACHED TO THE IDEA. I INTERPRETED THIS CAVEAT TO MEAN HE WAS QUITE CONCERNED AFTER THE FACT THAT BEGIN MIGHT
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NOT TAKE KINDLY TO DAYAN'S HAVING MADE THIS SUGGESTION. (REMEMBERING BEGIN'S REACTION TO YOUR MENTION OF DAYAN'S IDEAS DURING YOUR MEETING WITH HIM IN WASHINGTON, I CAN SEE DAYAN'S POINT.)
LEWIS

UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PALESTINIAN, MEETING DELEGATIONS, CAT-C, CHEROKEE 7-27-77
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE176546
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FWISNER:BABS
Enclosure: FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: N770004-0468
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977079/aaaaahah.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e2c9b370-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1958226
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DAYAN ON PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION AT GENEVA
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, PDEV, IS, US, (DAYAN, MOSHE), (LEWIS, SAMUEL W)
To: WHITE HOUSE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e2c9b370-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009